



Life's most persistent and urgent question is,

"What are
you doing
for others?"

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service & Volunteer Fair

2017 Annual Report



“Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.” – Martin Luther King, Jr



The Montgomery County Volunteer Center (MCVC) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service 2017 saw an increase in attendees from 2016 and was, overall, a well-attended, successful event. This year was a combination of new organizations and organizations who participated in past years; new, innovative project ideas; and a Hunger Free Zone which allowed hundreds of volunteers and packaging meals for seniors, shelters, and food pantries that went to Meals on Wheels and local families in need and area shelters. All County locations were reported as amazing opportunities for doing volunteer work and learning about opportunities to serve year-round.

The Volunteer Center promoted activities across the county including hosting a service site at the Bethesda North Marriott Conference Center and partnering with 3 other service locations: the Silver Spring Civic Building hosted by the Montgomery County (MD) Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; the Holiday Inn Express and Suites in Germantown co-hosted with the Alpha Kappa Alpha and Seneca Creek Community Church.

The **Bethesda North Marriott Conference Center** attracted 3,000 volunteers. The event included a volunteer fair, service projects and a Pledge pavilion hosted by KID Museum, Conflict Resolution, and TAPESTORY where volunteers of all ages participated in a story-telling audio podcast about bridging barriers and created pledge buttons. In our *Hunger Free Zone*, non-perishable goods were packaged and trail mix was assembled providing food resources to Montgomery County and surrounding areas.

The Marriott was well attended by families, work groups, organizations and individuals alike. The event included 35 volunteer fair exhibits, 37 individual organization-led projects.

The three additional MLK sites also had a great turn out. Each location had a variety of service projects to participate in:

- **3,000 volunteers participated in 37 individual organization-led projects and the Volunteer Fair at the Marriott Conference Center**
- **1,465 volunteers participated in 25 projects at the Silver Spring Civic Building**
- **501 volunteers participated in 27 projects at Seneca Creek Community Church**
- **150 volunteers participated in 13 projects at Germantown's Holiday Inn Express & Suites**

In addition to food collected from the four main sites, MCVC helped promote a county-wide food collection at Montgomery County Giant Food Stores for Manna Food Center. Combined, over 29,647 pounds of food were collected by Volunteers. The DC Metro Sai Samsthan had a Mega Sandwich and Food Drive resulting in 1500 sandwiches to Shepherds Food Table and over 1,000 pounds of non-perishable foods to Manna Food.

We also reached out to our registered agencies to plan projects at their own sites. For example, Takoma Park had volunteers help beautify their city by removing picking up litter and removing brush; the ARC Montgomery County repainted their child care center gym; and Montgomery County Parks supported 16 park clean ups removing 15,758 pounds of litter (trash and recyclables).



A glimpse of the Montgomery Parks project where volunteers collected debris from the streams and weed removal.

All Service Projects throughout the County

SERVICE PROJECT SITE	PROJECT	# OF VOLUNTEERS
Marriott Conference Center	Variety of service projects	3,000
Silver Spring Civic Building	Variety of service projects	1,465
Seneca Creek Community Church	Variety of service projects	500
Germantown Holiday Inn Express & Suites	Variety of service projects	150
Manna Food Center	Collected food at local Giants	190
Montgomery Parks	Trash removal and recycling	500
Cedar Ridge Community Church	MLK Day "I Have A Dream Speech" Screening	100
DC Metro Sai Samsthan	Mega Sandwich & Food Drive	40
City of Takoma Park	Cleaned park and stream valley	120
TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS		6,065

Project Outcome

The Montgomery County Volunteer Center's 2016 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service engaged 6,065 participants who served 12,130 hours in over 105 different projects throughout the County. On the following pages, we highlight some of the numerous projects that were completed at the service sites and the total number of items that were completed by the volunteers that attended.

BETHESDA NORTH MARRIOTT CONFERENCE CENTER, North Bethesda



Lupus Awareness Pins for Charity Run

AGENCY AND SERVICE PROJECTS	# ITEMS COMPLETED
Blankets for Nelson Mandela Day, Knit and Crochet Patriotic Squares for Veteran Blankets	Crochet Squares to make 5 Blankets
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Xi Sigma Omega Chapter Gaithersburg, Md, Create Tic Tac Toe and Memory Game for Youth Services	40 Tic Tac Toe and Memory Games
Bethesda Big Train, Make Foam Fingers for Children's Inn	100 Foam Fingers
Community Ministries Rockville, Decorate Certificate Holders for Volunteer Appreciation Event	60 Certificate Holders
For 3 Sisters, Make Breast Cancer Awareness Ribbons	231 Ribbons and 67 Greeting Cards
Germantown Health Center, Make Bunny Boo Boos for Germantown Health Center	158 Bunny Boo Boos
GS Troop 3413/Gold Award, Make Bedtime Kits	15 Bedtime Kits
Charles E Smith Life Communities, Get Well Soon Tissue Box Decorating	150 Decorated Tissue Boxes

BETHESDA NORTH MARRIOTT CONFERENCE CENTER, North Bethesda

Montgomery County Volunteer Center,
Create Paper Flowers for the Cancer Center

250 Flowers

Montgomery County Volunteer Center,
Create Easy Peasy Monster Corner
Bookmarks

141 Bookmarks

Jack and Jill of America Inc., Potomac Valley
Chapter Cut Shoe Patterns for Sole for Hope

304 Complete Shoes

JCA Interages Center, Decorating Book Plates
for the REAL Program

500 Book Plates

Kind-Works (formerly Mover Moms), Create
Patriotic Cards for Veterans

171 Patriotic Keychains

Manna Food Center, Manna Food Packaging
Project

960 Boxes

Meals on Wheels of Montgomery County,
Snow Day Boxes

500 Snow Day Boxes

Meals on Wheels of Montgomery County,
Have Cheer Delivered - Decorate Lunch Bags

100 Decorated Lunch Bags

Montgomery County Commission on
Children and Youth, Decorate and Create Art
Therapy Bags

300 Therapy Bags

Montgomery County Department of
Environmental Protection, Division of Solid
Waste Services, Assemble and Decorate Fun
"Bottle Cap Bugs" and Make Well Wish Cards

500 Bottle Cap Bugs

Montgomery County DHHS: Child Welfare
Services, Decorate Tootsie Pops for Foster
Youth Overnight Bags

300 Decorated Tootsie Pops

Montgomery County Muslim Foundation,
Create Rubber Band Balls

213 Rubber Band Balls

Montgomery County Volunteer Center, Trail
Mix for Shelters and Food Pantries

2,642 Bags of Trail Mix

Montgomery Hospice, No Sew Fleece Blanket
and Scarves Project

200 Scarves and 100 Blankets

BETHESDA NORTH MARRIOTT CONFERENCE CENTER, North Bethesda

People Helping People Foundation, Bundle
Socks for Veterans

162 Bundle Socks

People Helping People Foundation, Bead
Bracelets

100 Beaded Bracelets

Phi Beta Sigma, Personal Care Kits for Area
for Homeless

300 Hygiene Kits

Southern Management Corporation, Make
Pet Toys

155 Pet Toys

Southern Management Corporation, Make
Mini Notes for Hand-Knitted Hats and
Scarves

172 Notes for Hats and 44 Notes for Scarves

The Holiday Project, Valentine's Day Cards
for Seniors

223 Valentine Cards

The NETwork, Create Patriotic Keychains for
Local Veterans

171 Patriotic Keychains

The NETwork, Make "Be Happy Don't Worry"
Dolls

146 Dolls

US Trust / Bank of America, Paracord
Bracelets for Operation Gratitude

220 Paracord Bracelets

US Trust / Bank of America, Write a Letter for
the Troops

239 Letters

Warm Up America!, Crochet Squares for
Blankets

5 Afghan Blankets

Young Women of Society, Inc., Paint a Mini
Treasure Box for Childrens Inn at NIH

75 Mini Treasure Boxes

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. Eta Pi Zeta Chapter
– Youth Group, Make Anti-Bully Bracelets for
Students

75 Bracelets and Cards

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Delta Zeta Zeta,
Create Lupus Awareness Pins for Charity Run

156 Lupus Pins

For 3 Sisters, Greeting Cards

67 Greeting Cards

Silver Spring Civic Building



**"Looking Good, Inside and Out"
Positive Message Mirror**

SERVICE PROJECT	# ITEMS COMPLETED
Health Screening	Hosted by the African American Health Program
Emergency Response Information	Hosted by the Montgomery County Community Emergency Response Team
Household Items Collection for Shelter	50 Items -Household Goods
Snack Bags for Womens in Shelter	240 snack bags
Thoughtful Treasures	50 treasure boxes
Personal Care Baskets for Women	11 baskets w/ emphasis on toddler & children items
Girls Love Mail - Breast Cancer Letters	190 letters
Paracord Bracelets	320 bracelets
Love Blanket Project	125 Packets for Blankets, 250 get well cards
Valentine Day Cards for Seniors	207 cards
Letters to the Troops	284 Letters
"Looking Good, Inside and Out" Positive Message Mirror	106 mirrors
Kids Activity Kit	100 Kits (50 girls, 50 boys)

Silver Spring Civic Building

Parent Personal Care Kits	100 (50 men, 50 women)
Transition Baskets for Men.	75 Baskets
Beaded Bracelets	50 bracelets
"Happy Birthday to You" Card for Foster Kids	175 cards
Photo "Thinking of You" Cards for Seniors	50 Photo Cards
Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich Lunches (Sandwich, Fruit Snacks, Granola Bars)	300 Lunches
Back to School Bookbags	50 Book Bags
Valentine Bouquets	97 Bouquets
T-S-T: Teens, Seniors, and Technology	18 Seniors Helped
Drops for Tots	Collection Goal: 20, Scheduled: 19, Donors Seen: 31, Deferrels:7, Total Successful Collection: 24; Total # of Kids Helped @ Children's: 120.
Supply Drive for A Wider Circle	25 Items
Sleeping Bag & Blank Collection	

Seneca Creek Community Church



SERVICE PROJECT	# ITEMS COMPLETED
Breakfasts for Homeless	200 Breakfasts
Lunch for Homeless	200 Lunches
Water Bottle Sock Toy	300 Sock Toys
Cat Nip Toys	200 Nip Toys
Bandanas	250 Bandanas
Braided Ball Toys	175 Braided Ball Toys
Tennis Ball Rope Toys	100 Tennis Ball Rope Toys
Paracord Bracelets	123 Paracord Bracelets
Cards of Encouragement	116 Cards
Placemats for Children's Inn	139 Placemats
Foster Care Kids Kits	50 Kits
Hygiene Kits for the Homeless	750 Kits
Hygiene Kits for Women's Shelters	100 Kits
Cards of Encouragement for Cancer Patients	60 Cards
Valentine's Table Décor for 6 Plus Crafts	36 Table Décor
Blankets for Foster Children	50 Blankets
Sock Snowmen	50 Snock Snowmen

Seneca Creek Community Church

Owls Made with Tubes	100 Owls
Owls Made with Bags	100 Owls
Mugs of Love	100 Mugs
3 Thank You Banners for Fire Department with Cookies	3 Banners
Police Appreciation Bags	400 Appreciation Bags
Star of Hope Tags	200 Tags
Unity Project	40 Unity Projects
Sweet Treats of Cheer	300 Sweet Treats
Superhero Capes	30 Superhero Capes
Cards of Encouragement for Samaritan Women	40 Cards

Holiday Inn Express & Suites in Germantown



SERVICE PROJECT	# ITEMS COMPLETED
No Sew Fleece Blankets	40 Blankets
No Sew Fleece Scarves	178 Scarves
Loom Potholders	10 Potholders
Shoe tops for the toddlers in Uganda	20 Shoe Tops
Patriotic Cards for the Veterans	40 Cards
Socks Stuffed with Water, Granola, Crackers and Facecloths	400 Stuffed Socks

Holiday Inn Express & Suites in Germantown

Personal Hygiene Kits for the Homeless	900 Hygiene Kits
Knitted Hats for Infants in the NICU	5 Hats
Knitted Hats for Infants and Adults	12 Hats
Valentine's Day Cards for Senior Citizens	50 Cards
Patriotic and Inspirational Cards	30 Cards
Love, Peace, and Joy Bracelets	16 Bracelets
Embroidered Handkerchiefs	12 Handkerchiefs
Food Donation	1000 lbs

Participant Survey Results for All Service Sites

Total Number of Survey Responses
1123

Is This Your First Time Volunteering?	
Yes	No
65%	35%

Are You Likely to Take Part in the MLK Day of Service Next Year	
Yes	No
95%	5%

This Event Made a Positive Impact on the Community.
Strongly Agree/Agree
93%

I am More Likely to Volunteer in Other Ways throughout the Year as a Result of Today's Event.
Strongly Agree/Agree
82%

Media Outreach Efforts (Public Outreach, Ads, Press Releases, Newsletters, Etc.)

Organization Newsletters (example: Delta's, AKA's and Sigma's Newsletters)

MCPS November, December and January Quick Notes

Mentions/Blurbs in OCP and MCVC Newsletters (Constant Contact)

Special Edition Newsletter (Constant Contact)

Make a Difference TV show aired through January on County Cable

Articles in Montgomery Volunteer, Office of Community Partnership, Corporate Volunteers Council, and Regional Service Center newsletters

Video by Montgomery Community Media

Social Media (Facebook and Twitter)

Funding

We are very fortunate to receive continued support from the Fund for Montgomery and all of its sponsors. We also received funding from the Governor's Office on Service & Volunteerism through the Volunteer Generation Fund grant, as well as some funding from Montgomery County Government. Without these three funders we would not have been able to expand this year's event and cover the cost of all the amazing projects that took place. Other sponsors included \$5,000 from Marriott International, and an in-kind assistance from Gentle Giant Moving Company.

A Special Thank You to All of Our Sponsors



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority ★ Bank of America ★ BioHealth Innovations ★ Carl M. Freeman Foundation
Choice Hotels International ★ Comcast ★ Community Foundation in Montgomery County ★ County Executive Ike Leggett
Electric Entertainment ★ Gentle Giant Moving Company ★ Gloria Estrada Photography ★ Holiday Inn Express & Suites
Jewish Community Relations Council ★ Jewish Federation of Greater Washington ★ Lerch, Early & Brewer ★ Marriott
Marleen Van den Neste Photography ★ Montgomery County (MD) Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
Montgomery County Muslim Foundation ★ Pepco ★ Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity ★ Riderwood ★ Seneca Creek Community Church
Southern Management Corporation ★ The Sanford and Doris Slavin Foundation ★ United Therapeutic Corporation
Universities at Shady Grove (USG) ★ Verizon ★ Washington Gas ★ Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC)